

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 228799

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ORIGIN SS-25

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APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

NEA:ALATHERTON

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S/S - LREDDY

NSC:OAKLEY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 228799

EXDIS, FOR CHARGE FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LE, US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO SARKIS

1. FOLLOWING IS MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT TO ELIAS SARKIS
WHICH SHOULD BE CONVEYED TO HIM IMMEDIATELY UPON HIS TAKING
OFFICE.

2. BEGIN TEXT: QUOTE - DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: IN THE SPIRIT
OF THE CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS WHICH HAVE FOR SO
LONG EXISTED BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLES OF OUR TWO
COUNTRIES, I CONGRATULATE YOU UPON YOUR TAKING OFFICE AS
THE NEW PRESIDENT OF LEBANON. YOUR ASSUMPTION OF THIS HIGH
OFFICE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES, AT THIS
DIFFICULT TIME IN LEBANON'S HISTORY GIVES NEW HOPE TO ALL
WHO WISH TO SEE A RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEMS THAT HAVE BESET
YOUR COUNTRY IN A PEACEFUL, DEMOCRATIC MANNER CONSONANT
WITH LEBANON'S TRADITIONS.

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THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES HAVE THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY

FOR THE SUFFERING WHICH HAS OCCURRED. MY GOVERNMENT STANDS READY TO BE HELPFUL IN WHATEVER FURTHER WAY IT CAN TO ALLEVIATE THIS TRAGIC SITUATION. IN THE FUTURE, AS IN THE PAST, LEBANON CAN COUNT UPON UNITED STATES SUPPORT FOR ITS INDEPENDENCE, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND

NATIONAL UNITY, AS WELL AS OUR DEDICATION TO THE GOAL OF A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE FOR ALL STATES AND PEOPLES OF THE MIDDLE EAST.

SINCERELY, GERALD R. FORD - UNQUOTE.

3. IN DELIVERING THIS MESSAGE, YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT THERE IS NO OBJECTION TO HIS MAKING IT PUBLIC. ROBINSON

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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